

the Big E Shuttle

USS Enterprise (CVN-65) "Preserving the Legend" Thursday, June 18, 2009

DAPA Battles Command ARI's

By **MCSA Alex Forster**
Enterprise Public Affairs

With a safety booster covering the subject of drugs and alcohol abuse before nearly every weekend, Sailors onboard USS Enterprise (CVN-65) should be aware of the consequences of their actions during off-duty hours.

The command's Drug and Alcohol Prevention Advisor (DAPA) holds the responsibility of managing and coordinating the different programs involved with drug and alcohol abuse and recovery.

The goal of the DAPA is to provide enhanced detection and deterrence of drug and alcohol abuse and incidents, and provide education and treatment to the Sailors in the command.

"I screen individuals after they are involved in an Alcohol Related Incident (ARI), produce statistics for the command, and help get Sailors treatment after abuse, to name a few responsibilities", said Enterprise DAPA Chief Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) (AW/SW) Joe Bartell.

The DAPA also contends with the

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Photo by MC3 Jeffry Willadsen

Interior Communications Electrician 2nd Class Erick Raffles communicates with Security Dispatch through his hydra during his security watch.

One Enterprise Sailor's Remarkable Journey

By **MC3 Jeffry Willadsen**
Enterprise Public Affairs

The United States Navy is an incredibly diverse organization, and the crew onboard USS Enterprise (CVN-65) is no exception. With all the different, unique backgrounds and personalities Sailors on the ship have, it's easy to find a shipmate with an incredible story to tell.

Interior Communications Electrician 2nd Class Erick Raffles has such a story.

Raffles was born in poverty in the Central American country of El Salvador. When he was only 18 months old, his parents immigrated to the United States in order to make a better life for themselves and to escape the civil war that was going on in El Salvador at the time.

Not having enough money to bring Raffles and his brother with them, they left them with their grandparents; promising to bring them to the US as soon as they could.

Ten years later, in January of 1989,

'Journey' continued on page 3

Weekly Forecast

Newport News

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
						
T-storms 82°	T-storms 90°	T-storms 93°	T-storms 90°	T-storms 85°	T-storms 84°	T-storms 83°

Navy SEAL set to Launch into Space

By MC2 Dominique M. Lasco
Naval Special Warfare
Public Affairs

A Navy SEAL in NASA's astronaut program will soon launch into space.

Cmdr. Chris Cassidy of York, Maine, will be the second SEAL to launch into space since Capt. William Shepherd in 1992. Cassidy is a mission specialist and a part of the STS-127 crew that will work on upgrading the International Space Station (ISS).

STS-127's mission is to complete an ISS crew member swap, change out the cache of batteries which stores energy from ISS's solar arrays and install a platform to one end of the Japanese Kibo laboratory on the station. The platform will conduct experiments designed to work outside the protective confines of the space station.

After graduating from the



Photo by MC3 Jeffry Willadsen

Lt. Cmdr. Chris Cassidy is lowered into the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory (NBL) for a training session in Houston.

U.S. Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science in mathematics in 1993, Cassidy continued on to

Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training in Coronado, Calif., and was the honor graduate for BUD/S Class 192.

Cassidy has spent more than 10 years with SEAL teams, holding such positions as executive officer and operations officer of Special Boat Team 20 in Norfolk, Va., and platoon commander at SEAL Team 3 in Coronado. Along with serving in the Mediterranean, Cassidy deployed several times to Afghanistan where he was awarded two Bronze Stars with Combat 'V' and a Presidential Unit Citation for missions with the Army's 10th Mountain Division on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border.

He applied for the astronaut program after receiving his master's degree from the Massachusetts's Institute of Technology in 2000 and was accepted into the space program in 2004.

For more news from Naval Special Warfare, visit www.navy.mil/local/nsw/.



June 18

Lucero at the Norva at 2000.
Visit www.thenorva.com
for more information.

June 19

FREE Lifehouse concert at NOB
Fleet Rec Park. Gates open at 1700.

June 20

MWR Ship to Ship 4 on 4 Flag
Football Tourney. Rosters are
due by 1200 on Friday.

June 21

Norfolk Tides VS. LHV at 1315.

June 22

Norfolk Tides VS. LHV at 1915.

June 23

Norfolk Tides VS. Red Sox at 1915.



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Big E Outlook

Ship's Store Note

The ship's store will be closed for inventory 18 and 19 June. Vending machines will be secured for inventory on 19 June and turned back on upon completion of inventory.

Media Note

The Print Shop will be undergoing renovations 15-26 June in order to improve capability and customer service. Departments are asked to submit print job requests now to ensure their needs are met as the renovation takes place.

First Aid Training

310 Advanced First Aid Training will be held in Main Medical onboard the ship at 1300 every Thursday. If you have more than 10 personnel that need this training e-mail HM2 Shields to schedule a time for training in the afternoon.

Damage Control Training

DC Training schedule is as follows:

1-Series Lockers:
Tuesdays from 1200-1300.

7-Series Lockers:
Wednesday from 0900-1000.

Repair Lockers 4 & 5:
Thursdays 1130-1230.

Repair Lockers 2 & 3:
Fridays 0900-1000.

"Journey" Continued from pg. 1

Raffle's parents mailed his grandparents 2,000 dollars, a thousand for each of the brothers, to get them to the US. With no transportation available, the only choice the brothers had was to start an incredible journey on their own, on foot and by any other means possible, to be reunited with their parents.

Over the next months, 10 year old Raffles and his 11 year old brother back packed, hitch-hiked, swam, took trains, and any other form of transportation it took to get to the US.

"I don't remember too much about the journey," said Raffles. "But out of the few things, I remember having fun. We played in rivers, and did what little boys do. Even though we were on our own, we were still kids," he said.

All the brothers carried with them was a backpack and the thousand dollars for each of them.

After being deported from Mexico twice via the southern border, Raffles and his brother finally made it to California, and were reunited with their parents about a month after they left El Salvador.

"Even though I had never known my parents before, I remember being happy when we finally met them. They took us to their house, and I was amazed to see electricity, running water, and carpeted floors.

Those were things I'd never seen before, I was used to dirt floors," he said.

In 2000, Raffles was naturalized as a citizen of the United States. In 2001, he joined the US Navy following in the footsteps of his older brother, who had joined as an Aviation Machinists Mate five years earlier.

Only months after Raffles joined the Navy, the tragic events of September 11th took place.

"That really gave me a sense of purpose," he said. "After that, I knew why I had joined."

During his eight year Navy career, Raffles served onboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), and is now serving as an assistant section leader for the In-Port Security Forces (ISF), onboard Enterprise.

"He's a great worker and a top-notch Sailor," said Enterprise Security Department Lead Petty Officer Aviation Boat-swains Mate (Handling) 1st Class James McLaughlin. "He's always there to help out his shipmates."

Raffle's unique story is one of many you can find amongst the crew of USS Enterprise. And a testament to how those stories, and the people who lived them, can work to make this ship, and the Navy stronger.

"DAPA" Continued from pg. 1

unfortunate cases concerning Administrative Separation. To help prevent these separations, Bartell tries to communicate with new Enterprise Sailors as soon as possible.

"I facilitate the ship's Indoc class too," said Bartell. "I think Sailors coming to the command need to hear it as soon as they get here, to know the consequences of their actions," added Bartell.

The ARI and DUI numbers are down for this year, roughly half of what they were at this time last year. But Bartell isn't letting up because of better numbers. He's constantly trying to find ways to decrease incidents in

the command.

"I would like to see more use of the RAD (Right Spirit, Alcohol Awareness and Discipline) program for any phase one or phase two Sailor needing help making the right decisions," said Bartell.

The month of May saw a slight increase in ARIs, and with the usual increase of summer leave requests, don't be surprised if you see and hear a lot more from Bartell.

If you would like to know more about the command DAPA, or would like to become a departmental DAPA or supervisor, contact Bartell at J-Dial 7479.

Enterprise Happenings



Photo by MC3 Stacey Laseter

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Lorrin Baker (left) and Chief Hospital Corpsman Rubi Cedeno cut a cake during the Hospital Corpsman's 111th Birthday celebration held in Medical onboard USS Enterprise (CVN-65).



Photo by MC3 Devonte' Jones

Electrician's Mate 3rd Class James Thayer holds a ventilation temperature switch while Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Ilyas Abdillahi takes an electrical reading in the forward galley.



Photo by MC3 Jeffry Willadsen

USS Enterprise (CVN-65) Sailors from Air department move tiling on the flight deck.



Photo by MC2 Michael Rumbach

USS Enterprise (CVN-65) Sailors fight a mock fire on the flight deck during a general quarters (GQ) drill.